

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 3 as follows:

B --Since the storage unit 102 is in need of storing a large quantity of data, it is preferably in a compressed state. For compression, a variety of techniques, such as MDCT (Modified Discrete Cosine Transform), TWINVQ (Transform Domain Weighted Interleave Vector Quantization) (Trademark), as disclosed in Japanese Laying-Open Patent H-3-139923 or 3-139922. There is, however, no particular limitation if the compression method permits data expansion in, for example, the intermediate transmission device 2.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 10 as follows:

SC 17
B2 --The portable terminal device 3 sends its terminal ID data with request information to the server device 1 when first connected to the intermediate transmission device 2. A collation processing unit 104 collates the terminal ID data of the portable terminal device 3 with the terminal ID data of the portable terminal devices currently able to use the information distribution system. A pre-existing subscription list of authorized portable terminal devices (for example those that have paid a use fee) is stored as user-related data in the storage unit 102. The collation processing unit 104 sends the results of collation to the controller 101. Based on the results of collation, the controller then decides whether the information

B2
distribution system is or is not permitted to be used by the portable terminal device 3 loaded on the intermediate transmission device 2.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 18 as follows:

B3
--Under control by the controller 101, the assessment processing unit 105 performs assessment processing to determine the use fee amount needed to meet the state of use of the information distribution system by the user in possession of the portable terminal device. If, for example, the request information for information copying or electrical charging is sent from the intermediate transmission device 2 over the communication network 4 to the server device 1, the controller 101 sends the information coincident with the request information or data for permission of electrical charging. Based on the transmitted request information, the controller 101 grasps the state of use in the intermediate transmission device 2 or in the portable terminal device 3, and controls the assessment processing unit 105 so that the use fee amount of needed to meet with the actual state of use will be set in accordance with a pre-set rule.--

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

AY
--An information processing apparatus for separating input vocal-containing musical number information into a vocal